



Docket No. 15675.P369

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Guy VALEMBOIS, et al.

Serial No.: 09/913,971

Filed: August 17, 2001

For: **CONTROLLED RUPTURE DEVICE FOR A
STRUCTURE OPERATING IN TRACTION
AND EQUIPMENT USING SAME**

Examiner: Troy Chambers

Group Art Unit: 3641

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the outstanding Office Action mailed December 12, 2002, Applicants hereby elect Species C, corresponding to Figure 5. The claims readable on the elected species are Claims 1-7, 9-23, and 31-38. However, it is Applicants' position that the remaining claims, namely Claims 8, 24-30 and 39-49 are not incompatible with the species shown in Figure 5 and, therefore, all the claims should be maintained.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN

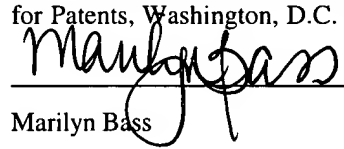
Dated: January 13, 2003


Eric S. Hyman, Reg. No. 30,139

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, California 90025
(310) 207-3800

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on January 13, 2003.


Marilyn Bass

January 13, 2003